



STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS
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775-688-2555

IMPORTANT NOTICE REQUIRING YOUR PROMPT ATTENTION

ASSEMBLY BILL 93 AND SENATE BILL 7

During the 78th/2015 Legislative Session, two bills were passed which will significantly impact those licensed by the State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Social Workers (Board). PLEASE READ ALL OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS LETTER REGARDING THE REFERENCED LEGISLATIVE BILLS AND ITS IMPACT ON YOUR SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE.

Assembly Bill 93 (AB 93)

AB 93 requires ALL licensed professionals listed in this legislation to complete, as a "prerequisite" for continued licensure **annually**, proof that he or she has completed, "...at least 2 hours of instruction on evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness." This bill goes into effect, July 1, 2016.

What this means to ALL social work licensees

The total number of Board approved continuing education hours for each level of licensure will remain the same. LASW'S and LSW'S will continue to take 30.0 continuing education hours during his or her two-year continuing education collection cycle, including 2.0 continuing education hours in Board approved courses on ethics. LCSW'S and LISW'S will continue to take 36.0 continuing education hours during his or her two-year continuing education collection cycle, including 3.0 continuing education hours in Board approved courses on ethics. AB 93 WILL NOT change the total number of CEU'S you will be required to complete during each two-year continuing education collection cycle.

AB 93, however, WILL change requirements to renew your license ANNUALLY (i.e. each year).

All individuals licensed by the Board, whose date of renewal occurs ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2016, will be required to submit proof (via a copy of a continuing education certificate of course completion) of at least **2.0 (Board approved) continuing education hours**, on the topic of **suicide prevention and awareness**. This proof of course completion **MUST be attached to EACH ANNUAL RENEWAL**, effective July 1, 2016. The Board will consider courses on the topic of suicide prevention and awareness which were completed by a licensee within the year immediately preceding the date of the renewal application. (A table, reflecting the dates falling within the year immediately preceding the date of application renewal are located on the back of this notice).

Failure to submit a copy of your continuing education certificate for each annual renewal will result in:

1. A delay in the processing of your renewal application; and
2. Non-renewal of your license if the continuing education course certificate is not completed within the year immediately preceding the date of the application renewal, and received in the Board office by the deadline posted on your license renewal form.

A licensee whose license is not renewed by the postmarked deadline on his or her renewal application is considered, "delinquent". It is unlawful for an individual to practice as a social worker under a delinquent license. ***There will NOT be any exemptions or grace period offered.***

To review AB 93 in its entirety, please go to the Legislative website:
http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/78th2015/Bills/AB/AB93_EN.pdf.

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SUICIDE AWARENESS CONTINUING EDUCATION COLLECTION CYCLE

MONTHS If you are renewing in the month of:	2016 Your suicide awareness CEU collection cycle for this year is:	2017 Your suicide awareness CEU collection cycle for 2017 will be:
July	August 1, 2015 – July 31, 2016	August 1, 2016 – July 31, 2017
August	September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016	September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017
September	October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
October	November 1, 2015 – October 31, 2016	November 1, 2016 – October 31, 2017
November	December 1, 2015 – November 30, 2016	December 1, 2016 – November 30, 2017
December	January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016	January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017
January	(exempt this cycle)	February 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017
February		March 1, 2016 – February 28, 2017
March		April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017
April		May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017
May		June 1, 2016 – May 31, 2017
June		July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

PLEASE VISIT THE BOARD'S WEBSITE, www.socwork.nv.gov, FOR A LIST OF BOARD APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES ON THIS SUBJECT.

Senate Bill 7 (SB 7)

SB 7 pertains to the application of an emergency admission of an individual deemed as being a danger to himself, herself or others, as described in NRS 433A.115 and NRS 433A.160. This application or form, formerly known as a, "Legal 2000", is now known as a, "**L2K2**" form. As previously contained in the Legal 2000, the "certification" section of this form (1st section) allows certain professionals, including "social workers" (at any licensing level), to complete the initial portion of the application for the purpose of referring an individual for involuntary emergency hospital admission, who meet the criteria in NRS 433A.115 and NRS 433A.160. SB 7 expands the list of licensed mental health professionals qualified to complete either the "Certification" section of the L2K2 form (to continue the involuntary hospitalization), or the "De-Certification" section of the L2K2, (which releases the involuntary hold). While a licensed physician on the hospital staff is still the only professional authorized to release the person from the hospital, the expanded list of licensed mental health professionals, pursuant to SB 7, who are allowed to either "Certify" or "De-Certify" the involuntary hospitalization of a patient or client, now includes licensed "Clinical Social Workers", who meet criteria as specified by the Board. **Section 4.7 requires the Board to establish the psychiatric training and necessary experience in regulation, with this proposed regulation change reflected in the Board's LCB File R018-16.** Until the regulation changes in LCB File R018-16 are operational by the Board, a clinical social worker is **prohibited** from completing the Certification or De-Certification of the L2K2, involuntary hospitalization form.

To view SB 7 in its entirety, please go to the Legislative website:
http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/78th2015/Bills/SB/SB7_EN.pdf.

Please check back to the Board's website periodically to view any updates, regarding these two bills:
www.socwork.nv.gov.